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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

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SUBJECT

Possible Closing Down of Ziehwerk Berlin

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SOURCE

1. The original quota figure for the 1953 production of steel-drawing plants was lowered by the East German State Planning Commission from 53,000 to 48,000 metric tons. As a result, the capacity of East German steel-drawing plants is even less exploited than formerly. The total capacity of the four East German plants (Ziehwerk Jagenau, Ziehwerk Brotterode and Ziehwerk Berlin) amounts to about 70,000 metric tons per year. While Jagenau, Belitzsch and Brotterode have managed to operate profitably despite poor use of capital, unfavorable conditions and poor plant organization made this impossible at Ziehwerk Berlin.
2. Ziehwerk Berlin was taken over in April 1951 from the administration of the Berlin Magistrat. Even prior to this transfer it had been planned to shift the plant to its present location. The move was made, but the expected improvement in conditions did not materialize. Therefore, it has been suggested that the Berlin plant be closed and the machinery from the plant transferred to the other steel-drawing plants. The 100 employees of Ziehwerk Berlin who would thus be out of jobs can find work in the Berlin area without any trouble.
3. The following table lists the original planned 1953 production for East German steel-drawing works and the revised plan which omits Ziehwerk Berlin:

Plant	Original 1953 Suggested Planned Production	Production Plan After Reduction by the State Planning Commission	Production Plan After the Closing Down of the Berlin Plant.	Capacity
Jagenau	20,000	18,000	22,000	30,000
Belitzsch	15,000	16,000	19,000	22,000
Brotterode	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Berlin	11,000	7,000	-	11,000
Totals	53,000	48,000	48,000	70,000

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